

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 03003 010714Z

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 L-01 NEA-07 ACDA-10 SP-02

NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 MC-01 /055 W

-----010736 086597 /23-12

P R 010601Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6540

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCPACREPPHIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 3003

LIMDIS

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PINT, RP, LY

SUBJECT: TRIPOLI TALKS AT IMPASSE

REF: MANILA 2456 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. SECDEF ENRILE HAS SHOWN ME CORRESPONDENCE WITH LIBYANS WHICH CONFIRMS THAT TRIPOLI TALKS ON MUSLIM PROBLEM ARE AT AN IMPASSE AND THE LIBYANS THREATEN RENEWED HOSTILITIES WITH GOP. PHILIPPINE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL HAS DECIDED TO AVOID EXPLOSIVE BREAKUP OF TALKS AND WILL PROBABLY DECIDE PROCEED WITH PLEBISCITE EVEN IF MUSLIMS BOYCOTT. IN MEANTIME, GOP PREPARING FOR PROBABLE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 03003 010714Z

RESUMPTION OF HOSTILITIES AND SEEKS EXPEDITED DELIVERY OF CERTAIN MILITARY HARDWARE FROM U.S. END SUMMARY.

2. I MET WITH DEFENSE SECRETARY ENRILE EVENING FEB 28

TO GET READ-OUT OF PHILIPPINE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD EARLIER THAT DAY ON TRIPOLI NEGOTIATIONS

CONCERNING MUSLIMS. ENRILE HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED BY MARCOS TO SHOW ME CERTAIN DOCUMENTS FROM THEIR NEGOTIATING FILES IN ORDER TO GIVE PROPER FEEL FOR SITUATION.

3. FIRST DOCUMENT ENRILE SHOWED ME WAS MNLF PAPER WHICH THEY PRESENTED AT OPENING OF CURRENT ROUND OF TRIPOLI TALKS. PAPER WAS IN FORM OF DRAFT PRESIDENTIAL DECREE WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH "AUTONOMOUS" MUSLIM REGION OF 13 PROVINCES, COMPLETE WITH ITS OWN SEPARATE CONSTITUTION, FLAG, LEGAL SYSTEM, ADMISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AND ARMED FORCES. (ARMED FORCES WOULD EQUAL ONE QUARTER OF PHILIPPINE NATIONAL FORCES.) PAPER CLEARLY WENT WELL BEYOND THE SENSE OF THE TRIPOLI AGREEMENT INITIALLED LAST DECEMBER.

4. SECOND DOCUMENT WAS CURT CABLE FROM LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTER AL TREIKI TO MARCOS ACCUSING PHILIPPINES OF DUPLICITY AND THREATENING RESUMPTION OF HOSTILITIES. THIS CABLE WAS DATED FEBRUARY 20 AND WAS DELIVERED AFTER DISCUSSIONS WHICH MARCOS HAD HELD WITH LIBYAN CHARGE ON NAVY DAY, FEBRUARY 16.

5. THIRD DOCUMENT WAS CABLE FROM QHADAFI TO MARCOS, DATED FEBRUARY 27. WHILE IT WAS MORE DIGNIFIED IN ITS TENOR, IT STILL CONTAINED THE THREAT OF RENEWED HOSILITIES AND INSISTED UPON THE INCLUSION OF ALL 13 PROVINCES IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION AS WELL AS ELIMINATION OF PLEBISCITE. CABLE REFERRED TO "PERSONAL MESSAGE" FROM IMELDA MARCOS WHICH LIBYAN CHARGE HAD CARRIED TO TRIPOLI "GUARANTEEING" CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANILA 03003 010714Z

THAT 10 OF THE 13 PROVINCES WOULD VOTE IN THE PLEBISCITE IN FAVOR OF JOINING THE AUTONOMOUS REGION. QHADAFI SAID THIS WAS UNSATISFACTORY AND CONTRARY TO DECEMBER AGREEMENT.

6. ENRILE SAID NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL HAD DISCUSSED DILEMMA NOW POSED TO GOP. HE SAID THEY HAD DECIDED TO ASK BARBERO TO CONTINUE HIS MEETINGS IN TRIPOLI UNTIL MARCH 3, AS SCHEDULED, AND TO RECESS POLITLEY AND WITHOUT FIREWORKS, GOP WOULD ATTEMPT TO FRAME FINAL COMMUNIQUE WHICH AVOIDS ANY SUGGESTION THAT TALKS HAVE BROKEN DOWN.

7. AS FAR AS PLEBISCITE IS CONCERNED, NSC DISCUSSION WAS INCONCLUSIVE. IN GENERAL, IT WAS FELT PLEBISCITE SHOULD PROCEED AS SCHEDULED MARCH 17. HOWEVER, IF MNLF ANNOUNCES BOYCOTT, IT IS "PROBABLE" THAT ONLY 3 PROVINCES WILL CHOOSE AUTONOMY RATHER THAN 10. THESE PROVINCES WILL BE SULU, BASILAN, AND MAGUINDANAO.

8. IF TALKS END IN IMPASSE, MARCOS WILL SEEK TO AVOID

RENEWAL OF FIGHTING AND WILL TRY TO PRESERVE CEASE-FIRE.
HOWEVER, HE WILL ATTEMPT BREAK UP MNLF BY OFFERING
AUTONOMOUS STATUS TO CERTAIN AREAS AND ELEMENTS AMONG THE
MUSLIMS. IN MEANTIME, HE WILL MAKE PREPARATIONS FOR
RESUMED MILITARY ACTIVITY. HE ASSUMES MUSLIMS WILL WANT
BRETHING SPELL WHILE THEY ARE BUILDING UP THEIR SUPPLIES.
ENRILE ESTIMATES SUCH HIATUS MAY LAST AS LONG AS FOUR
TO SIX MONTHS.

9. IN MEANTIME, ENRILE WISHES U.S. TO EXPEDITE DELIVERIES
OF CERTAIN AMMUNITION AND EQUIPMENT. HIS OFFICERS ARE
MEETING WITH JUSMAG COUNTERPARTS AND MORE SPECIFICS ON
THIS SUBJECT WILL BE DISCUSSED IN SEPARATE REPORTING
CABLES.
SULLIVAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, SELFGOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MANILA03003
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770069-0881
Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703105/aaaadpgs.tel
Line Count: 130
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 070328ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 77 MANILA 2456
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2951934
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRIPOLI TALKS AT IMPASSE
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PINT, RP, LY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/070328ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009